



The NUNES Report

Nunes summit focuses on nursing shortage

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Expert speakers laud proposal to establish a regional training center

More than 140 health care leaders and educators gathered at Children's Hospital Central California for a nursing shortage summit hosted by Rep. Devin Nunes.

"At a time when hospitals are grappling with the prospect of mandated nurse-to-patient ratios, and in an environment when they are already having to recruit from outside the state—and even the country—to meet labor force needs, this summit provided some much-needed direction and cooperation for our local health care community," said Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare.

The congressman asked the crowd to come up with collaborative proposals he could pursue through legislation or funding through existing government programs.

The participants split up into three groups to tackle the issue from different angles, including recruiting and retaining a vibrant workforce, expanding classroom and clinical space, and increasing the number of qualified instructors.

The morning speaker was Deloras Jones, executive



More than 140 health care leaders and educators from Bakersfield to Yuba City attended Rep. Devin Nunes' second health summit. The event was focused on addressing the shortage of registered nurses and health care technicians.

Quick Facts

In March, Rep. Nunes helped 50 constituents overcome problems with government agencies.

For the year, the congressman has directly solved cases for 118 constituents and is currently assisting 525 others. Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has directly solved cases for 1,118 constituents.

director of the California Institute of Nursing and Health Care.

She warned that California faces a severe shortage of health care workers, especially registered nurses, by 2010. Not only will the Baby Boom generation be entering retirement, but so will a large percentage of the current nurse workforce.

Elizabeth Duke, administrator for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, was the keynote speaker at lunch. HRSA is one of 11 operating

divisions of the federal health department. The agency uses its budget to expand access to health care through an extensive grant program to state and local governments, health care providers and training programs.

She told the crowd that they need to come together as a region to address the problem and come up with innovative solutions. She was very encouraged by the proposal to establish a regional training center that could be utilized by multiple

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